

Louisiana Board of Regents Higher Education Reopening Safely Phases 2 and 3

Frequently Asked Questions

As of June 19, 2020

1. What is the suggested guidance for temperature checking?

Encourage self-checking daily for symptoms such as fever or illness, staying home if any symptoms are present. When possible temperature checking can be utilized. Identifying a fever is a helpful symptom to identify. In studies, fever was the most common symptom of COVID-19, although not the earliest symptom. Encourage daily self-checking by including signage around campus to remind students, faculty, and staff to daily self-check.

2. What is the guidance on using public water fountains in facilities?

Continue to use personal water bottles and do not utilize shared water fountains at this time. Mounted individual water bottle filling stations can be utilized.

3. Can elevators be utilized with physical distancing during Phases 2 and 3?

Yes. Cloth mask with physical distancing on all campus elevators. The number of people on the elevator is dependent on the size of the elevator. Utilize signage to encourage physical distancing and indicate the max number of occupants on each elevator.

4. Are we ending the Fall semester before Thanksgiving?

This is an institutional level decision. Please check with your campus-level administration. Institutions are encouraged to review their academic calendars in order to limit out of state travel by students. For example, some are considering compressing the fall calendar on residential campuses so that students leave at Thanksgiving and complete the semester online, not returning to campus until the new year.

5. Does "Closed to the Public" include students who are not enrolled and simply checking on Financial Aid?

In general, limit unnecessary visitors. We do not consider current or future students in the general public. In Phase 2, if an in-person meeting is essential, you can proceed with cloth masks and physical distancing. The guidance pertains to unnecessary additional visitors.

6. What about prospective student visits, tours?

The guidance encourages limiting external presence and visitors in Phase 2. Visitors allowed in Phase 3.

7. What are the directives as it relates to undergraduate students involved in research that requires them to travel to various locations in the state to collect materials and/or data?

Encourage the use of physical distancing. In Phase 2, research can continue but we strongly encourage cloth masks with physical distancing.

8. Should campuses procure additional PPE for the fall semester? Also, is a face shield an acceptable alternative to a cloth mask?

Cloth mask preferred; additional PPE is not needed for all students, faculty, and staff. This is up to the institution of what additional PPE is necessary for certain employees. For example, food service employees, gloves, and access to handwashing facilities is needed.

A cloth mask is preferred, although a face shield can be helpful with larger droplets when you cough or sneeze. If you cannot wear a face mask you can wear a face shield, although a cloth mask is preferred.

9. Who will do the contact tracing? Will the Department of Health do this or is the school expected to do it?

If the state contact tracers identify an outbreak on campus or if the campus is the center for an outbreak, for example, multiple students in a resident hall test positive for COVID-19, regional medical directors will work with the postsecondary institution directly. If a student is off-campus, for example visiting family for the weekend where contact is made, the postsecondary institution will not be independently contacted. Instead, the student will need to quarantine at home. The student will need to contact the postsecondary institution to let them know they are in quarantine and will continue their education remotely.

10. What are the additional resources for counseling services on campus?

The Office of Behavioral Health has a 24/7 COVID-19 Mental Health hotline which is 1-866-310-7977.